



The University of Sydney
Alumni

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY ARTS ASSOCIATION



David Scott Mitchell

The links between the University of Sydney and the Mitchell Library, one of the foremost centres in the world for the study of Australian history, have always been close. The founder of the Library, David Scott Mitchell, was one of the first group of students to enrol at the University and one of its first batch of graduates. Members of the University staff, including some of its most distinguished professors, served both on the Board of Trustees of the Public Library and later on the Council of what became the State Library of New South Wales. The Mitchell formed part of that library and until 1953 came under a Mitchell Library Committee on which Sydney University academics and graduates were strongly represented. Part of the object of this evening's talk is to examine the contribution they made to the shaping of the Mitchell. Important too is the fact that an extremely interesting and highly talented group of Sydney University graduates were on the staff of the Library, and their role also deserves to be examined, as indeed does the contribution to the world of scholarship of readers, many of whom were undertaking degrees at the University. The combined influence of Board members, staff and readers was quite profound and made an enduring mark on the Library.

Brian Fletcher is a graduate of the University of Sydney and was the foundation Bicentennial Professor of Australian History from 1987 until 1999. Currently he is an Honorary Professor in the Department of History. A Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities and of the Royal Australian Historical Society, he is the author of nine books and numerous articles dealing with different aspects of Australian history. His book, *Magnificent Obsession: the story of the Mitchell Library, Sydney*, timed to coincide with the centenary of the foundation of the library, was published in December 2008. His latest book, which deals with the impact of Anglicanism on twentieth-century Australia, is expected to be published towards the end of 2009.

For further information, please contact:

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**The Sydney University Arts Association
The Friends of The University of
Sydney Library
and the School of Philosophical and
Historical Inquiry
invite you to a Special Lecture by
Emeritus Professor
Brian Fletcher
Department of History**

“Sydney University and the Mitchell Library”

on

Tuesday 11th November 2008

**5:30 for 6:00 to 7:30pm
Lecture Theatre N395
Woolley Building, Science Road
The University of Sydney**

**The lecture will be preceded from
5:30pm by a reception in the Woolley
Common Room,**

***All are invited to attend. There is no
charge***

The University has a "pay-and-display" parking system, and heavy fines are imposed for non-compliance. Parking costs after 3.00pm are \$2.00 per hour to a maximum of \$6.00. The ticket machines accept \$1.00 and \$2.00 coins only. University campus roads fall under the general road rules, so parking Infringement Notices are processed by the NSW Police Infringement Process Bureau. Any enquiries regarding Infringement Notices should be made per the instructions included with the notice. Problems concerning faulty ticketing or change machines may be referred to the Sydney University Traffic and Parking Office on +61 2 9351 3336.

Please note that as a result of building works there have been considerable changes to the University's roads and available parking areas.

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